

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LIMA 10968 311837Z

53

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TAGS: PGOV,PINT,PE

SUBJ: MINISTERIAL CHANGES FOR 1975

1. DECEMBER 31 LIMA PRESS REPORTS ON 1975'S EXPECTED CABINET CHANGES.

2. AIR MINISTRY. TALKING TO THE PRESS, JUNTA MEMBER AND AIR MINISTER GILARDI ANNOUNCED THAT HE WOULD BE REPLACED ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1975 BY LT. GENERAL CESAR PODESTA JIMENEZ, CURRENTLY AIR FORCE CHIEF OF STAFF. PODESTA WILL BE THE RANKING AIR FORCE OFFICER UPON GILARDI'S RETIREMENT NEXT AUGUST. A PROTEGE OF GILARDI, PODESTA IS 53, AND GENERALLY CONSIDERED TO BE A MODERATE AND A VERY QUITE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS NOT EXPECTED TO CHALLENGE PRESIDENT VELASCO OR HIS POLICIES. HIS RIVAL IN THE AIR FORCE IS LUIS BARANDIARAN PAGADOR, A MORE JUNIOR BUT AMBITIOUS GENERAL, WHO RESIGNED AS COMMERCE MINISTER IN OCTOBER AS A RESULT OF A DISAGREEMENT WITH PRESIDENT VELASCO. PODESTA'S RETIREMENT DATE IS AUGUST 1976 WHEREAS BARANDIARAN'S IS SEPTEMBER 1977.

3. NAVY MINISTRY. GILARDI CONFIRMED THAT GUILLERMO FAURA GAIG WOULD BECOME NAVY MINISTER (AND JUNTA MEMBER) ON JANUARY 2 REPLACING RETIRING ADMIRAL ARCE. CURRENTLY FLEET COMMANDER, FAURA IS 56 AND LITTLE KNOWN TO EMBASSY; HE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LIMA 10968 311837Z

GIVES THE IMPRESSION OF HAVING SOMETHING ELSE ON HIS MIND

WHEN SPOKEN TO. FAURA IS REPUTEDLY A VELASQUISTA AND IS BEING MADE NAVY MINISTER AS A RESULT OF THE FORCED RETIREMENT OF THREE ADMIRALS MORE SENIOR THAN HE. NAVY ATTACHE HAS DETECTED LITTLE ENTHUSIASM WITHIN THE NAVE FOR THIS APPOINTMENT, WHICH WILL SERVE TO DEPRESS ALREADY POOR MORALE.

4. FOOD MINISTRY. BRIGADIER GENERAL RAFAEL HOYOS RUBIO WILL BECOME FOOD MINISTER OF JANUARY 2. THIS IS A NEW POSITION AND HE COMES TO IT AFTER LEADING THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE FOR ONE YEAR. AGE 50, AN AVOWED VELASQUISTA, HE PARTICIPATED IN THE 1968 COUP AND HAS HELD IMPORTANT POSITIONS SINCE THEN. HE IS RESPECTED, A PRAGMATIST, AND APPARENTLY NOT AS CLASS CONSCIOUS AS OTHER VELASQUISTAS. HOYOS' RETIREMENT DATE IS 1983.

5. EDUCATION MINISTRY. BRIGADIER GENERAL RAMON MIRANDA AMPUERO WILL ASSUME THIS PORTFOLIO ON FEBRUARY 1 VICE RETIRING DIVISION GENERAL CARPIO. HE IS 49 AND REPORTEDLY ONE OF THE SHARPEST OF THE YOUNG VELASQUISTA GENERALS; HE APPARENTLY HAS STOOD OUT AS COMMANDER OF THE LIMA MILITARY TRAINING CENTER. HIS RETIREMENT DATE IS 1982.

6. SINAMOS. ELCOMERCIO REPORTS THAT, ON DECEMBER 30, THE CABINET NAMES RETIRED AIR FORCE GENERAL SALA OROZCO TO HEAD SINAMOS VICE GENERAL RUDECINDO ZAVALETA. FORMERLY LABOR MINISTER, SALA IS WELL KNOWN AND HAS GENERALLY FAVORED THE LEFTIST TENDENCIES OF THE REVOLUTION. HE GOT ALONG WELL WITH THE COMMUNIST GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF PERUVIAN WORKERS(CGTP). AT SINAMOS HE WILL PRESUMABLY FEEL MORE AT EASE WITH THAT ORGANIZATION'S LEFTIST IDEALOGUES THAN ZAVALETA. THIS SHOULD IMPROVE SINAMOS' MORALE.

7. NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE. ZAVALETA WILL MOVE TO THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE SERVICE. A VELASQUISTA, ZAVALETA HAS A SPOTTY REPUTATION. HE IS LOYAL TO VELASCO AND FOLLOWS ORDERS.

8. COMMENT: THE OTHER MAJOR CHANGE INVOLVES GENERAL MORALES BERMUDEZ WHO IS DUE, AS HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED REPEATEDLY, TO BECOME WAR MINISTER AND PRIME MINISTER ON FEBRUARY 1. PRESIDENT VELASCO MAY BE LESS THAN PLEASED BY MORALES' ASCENDANCE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 LIMA 10968 311837Z

BUT THERE IS NO REASON TO BELIEVE THE PRESIDENT IS DISPLEASED WITH THE CABINET CHANGES REPORTED HEREIN.
BARNEBEY

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